

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

5/21/2024

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Laureto at 7:30 PM. The meeting was held in the Glen Arbor Township Hall.

Roll Call – J. DePuy, B. Hawley, P. Laureto, D. Lewis, and T. Laureto present. Chief Ferguson and twenty-eight members of the public were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The agenda was presented and amended. **Motion B. Hawley, support J. DePuy, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.**

All board members stated they had no conflict of interest with any items on the agenda.

Public Comment: none

Minutes of the 4/16/24 Regular Board Meeting were presented. **Motion D. Lewis, support B. Hawley, to approve the minutes of the 4/16/24 Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

Minutes of the 4/24/24 Special Board Meeting were presented. **Motion D. Lewis, support B. Hawley, to approve the minutes of the 4/24/24 Special Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

Treasurer's Report as of 4/30/24 – Cash on Hand by Fund Balance was presented

General Fund	\$1,151,680.92	Park Debt Service Fund	\$98,645.65
Emergency Services Fund	\$3,324,544.89	Fisher Lake SAD Fund	\$21,717.23
GLFD Debt Service Fund	\$ 4,135.02	Tax Collection Fund	\$14,314.57

Emergency Services Advisory Commission Report – Clerk Laureto reported that ESAC reviewed the monthly checklist and payroll and recommended that the Township Board pay the unpaid checks and payroll. ESAC also recommended that the Fire Department pursue the 2% grant for new electronics for the Fire and Rescue boat, and they recommended that the Board approve the new server.

Clerk's Report – Clerk Laureto reported that the General Fund bills from April 13 through May 21, 2024 totaled \$27,658.73 and the April payroll was \$19,042.77. **Motion B. Hawley, support D. Lewis, to approve the payment of the General Fund bills and payroll. Motion unanimously carried.**

Laureto reported that the Emergency Services bills from April 11 through May 14, 2024 totaled \$94,352.47 and the April payroll was \$112,308.66. **Motion P. Laureto, support J. DePuy, to approve payment of the Emergency Services bills and payroll. Motion unanimously carried.**

Fire Chief Operations Report – Chief Ferguson reported that there were 36 calls for the month of April. The new Engine is now in service and housed at Station 2 in Empire. The Department is having an open house to showcase the new engine on Wednesday 5/22/24 from 5:30 – 7:30pm and also during the Asparagus Festival. The Department is still waiting to hear back from FEMA on the grant they submitted for new Self-contained Breathing Apparatus. They expect to hear back in the next few weeks

Zoning Administrators Report – Submitted in writing

Monthly Assessors Report – Submitted in writing

Correspondence – The April correspondence is available in the Township Office for review.

Unfinished Business

1. Approval of the Content Neutral Zoning Ordinance 5.0 – All Board members received a copy of the Zoning Ordinance 5.0 last month. The Leelanau County Planning Commission has reviewed it and had only favorable comments on the reorganization. **Motion B. Hawley, support D. Lewis, to approve the Glen Arbor Township Content Neutral Zoning Ordinance 5.0. Motion carried unanimously.**
2. T. Laureto explained that the purpose of the parking lot project is to correct drainage issues so that water doesn't seep into the office. The asphalt portion of the project is expected to be completed before the first farmer's market.
3. T. Laureto explained that the lighting project involves replacing the 15 florescent lighting troffers with LED lighting that has 15 levels of dimming. The electrician will be out next week.

New Business

1. Supervisor Laureto recapped the history of involving tennis courts 3 & 4 stating that the Parks and Recreation committee twice submitted a \$400K grant to redo and expand the two tennis courts and line them for both pickleball and tennis. Glen Arbor was not awarded either grant and improvements were deferred. A resident called a local contractor and requested a "bare bones" quote to redo the tennis courts. The resulting \$90K quote was approved by the Board. Laureto stated 27 emails were received from residents regarding the issue of how the courts should be lined and that all Board members received a copy of those emails. He opened the floor for public comment.

Public Comment: Nine members of the public spoke in favor of lining two tennis courts for both Pickleball and Tennis. Several commented that the volume of residents playing Pickleball is greater than those playing tennis; that "Sport Courts", courts lined for multiple sports, are becoming very popular across the country; that the pickleball courts at the park are often full and the tennis courts are empty; and, that multi-use spaces are good alternatives. It was suggested that the Board should consider the numbers of people playing pickleball. Examples of how pickleball brings community members together in a positive way were given. A compromise was suggested involving lining one court for both and the other just for tennis.

Nine members of the public spoke against lining tennis courts for both Pickleball and Tennis. Several commented that having two sets of lines on a tennis court is confusing and makes play difficult. Others commented that pickleball is a noisy sport that doesn't blend well with tennis. It was stated that Glen Arbor has a long history with tennis is an anchor sport; that the two sports don't mesh as one has people moving in and out with relatively short games and the other has no one moving in and out with a game that lasts over an hour; that it will be difficult to police who gets to use the courts; and, that tennis should have priority. The park was described as a jewel, the Board was encouraged not to change it, and it was suggested that it is not the Township Boards job to fix the pickleball problem.

Board members discussed the issue. Trustee Hawley reminded the Board that courts 3 & 4 have been unplayable for a while and that the Board had discussed closing them this year due to safety concerns and liability issues. He stated that he read all the letters and listened to all the comments but he does not have the facts necessary to make a decision. He suggested lining the new courts for tennis, doing a study in July and August on the use of all the courts, and then revisit expanding the pickleball footprint on courts 1 & 2. Trustee DePuy thanked M. Tanielian for making the tennis court replacement happen. He also would like to gather data before making a decision. Clerk Laureto stated that for the last 6 years she has worked with first the Park Commission and then the Park and Recreation Board and that since she has been involved the discussion among both groups has been the growing need for more pickleball courts. She stated that the Park has limited space and the Board has no ability to put in additional pickleball courts because there is no additional land available. She said that she would like to see the numbers and is in favor of collecting data and revisiting the issue. Treasurer Lewis thanked all those who wrote emails and participated in public comment. He said he believes there are multiple alternatives that all need to be explored. He agreed that pickleball is the fastest growing sport and stated that there is a need for more pickleball courts in Glen Arbor and in the County. He talked about the unprecedented assets at the Glen Lake School and suggested that pickleball courts will need to be installed at the school as the sport is being played by young people. He spoke about the Park noting that it's being utilized by people of all ages and athletic ability as there are multiple activities available. He believes that the issue at hand is to deal with courts 3 & 4. We need to finish that project at the same level of excellence as the rest of the park. Supervisor Laureto asked for a motion to make courts 3 & 4 exclusive for tennis, and to table any

changes for courts 1 & 2. He wants to be open to exploring all options and listed several of the potential options. He would like to be open to what the data will show is needed. **Motion D. Lewis, support P. Laureto, to finish the rebuilding of courts 3 & 4 for tennis only and that we continue to explore options for courts 1 & 2. Motion carried unanimously.**

Motion B. Hawley, support P. Laureto, to gather data throughout the summer and then revisit courts 1 & 2. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Clerk Laureto described the tree work that needs to be done at the Park and the Garden. **Motion J. DePuy, support D. Lewis to approve the quote for \$800.00 from Tobin Tree Service. Motion carried unanimously.**
3. Clerk Laureto reviewed the quotes to replace the wireless internet access in the parking lot, meeting room, and hall which was lost when Aspen pulled out. **Motion D. Lewis, support J. DePuy, to proceed with the quotes for wireless internet access in the parking lot, meeting room and hall. Motion carried unanimously.**
4. Clerk Laureto presented background information stating that the Fire Department's server was scheduled to be replaced three years ago and the Township's server is nearing its life expectancy. Additionally, the Township's server is in need of an upgrade to accommodate the new requirements of the treasurer and the needs of the assessor. She and Chief Ferguson felt it would be financially in the best interest of both the Township and the Fire Department to purchase 1 server that could accommodate the needs of both entities. The quote will be split 50/50 between the Township and the Fire Department. **Motion J. DePuy, support D. Lewis, to approve the quote from Netlink for the server and split the cost 50/50 with the Fire Department. Motion carried unanimously. Motion D. Lewis, support, J. DePuy, to approve the quote from Netlink for \$3448.00 for equipment and software to go along with the server. Motion carried unanimously.**
5. A quote for replacing the security cameras was received this afternoon. The Fire Chief and Clerk need to review it with the vendor. It will be presented at next month's meeting.
6. Clerk Laureto presented a request from the ad hoc cemetery committee to make a donation to the historian helping with the cemetery. We are unable to make donations and will advise the committee of such.
7. Chief Ferguson wants to have a swearing in ceremony for all new full-time employees. The oaths being developed are specific to the Fire Department. **Motion D. Lewis, support B. Hawley, to approve Policy 1-2024 – Oaths of Office Policy for the Glen Lake Fire Department. Motion carried unanimously.**
8. Chief Ferguson presented information on the 2% grant that he would like to submit to the tribe. This year he would like to request funds for all new electronics for the fire and rescue boat. The total replacement of the electronics will be \$52,000. He would like to submit the grant request with a 60/40 split so the Department would pay \$21,200 and if awarded the tribe would pay \$31,800. Currently, the Fire Boat covers from Manistee north to Charlevoix. **Motion D. Lewis, support P. Laureto, to approve submitting the 2% grant as presented.**
9. Station 1 renovations – Chief Ferguson presented the need for reconfiguration of the living quarters, particularly the bedroom areas and the kitchen. RCI construction has recently completed the Blair Township fire station, is currently doing a remodel on the Suttons Bay fire station, and has redone part of the basement at the County Building. RCI comes highly recommended. Ferguson provided the Board with a 5 step plan and requested approval for Step 1 which would yield a preliminary floor plan and a close estimate on the cost for the remodel. **Motion D. Lewis, support J. DePuy, to move forward with step #1 which would involve a \$6,000 check for the architect and a \$3,784 check for RCI Construction.** Chief Ferguson asked to talk about where the funding will be coming from and T. Laureto said from the Glen Arbor portion of the Department's funds. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Cemetery Report: Lewis reminded members of the Memorial Day Ceremony at the cemetery.

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Bob Hawley, Trustee John DePuy, Trustee

Don Lewis, Treasurer

Park and Recreation Board Report: P. Laureto reported that there were 15+ volunteers at a park work bee last Saturday. Wind screens were hung and weeding was done.

Planning Commission Report: Trustee Hawley reported the planning commission discussed various combinations of zoning districts. The discussion was prompted by a review of the Master Plan. The commission decided that the keyholing ordinance will be left as is. They will be talking about shipping containers, solar and wind, and accessory dwelling units and fences in upcoming meetings.

Public Comments: None

Board Member Comments:

Clerk Laureto said that she will attend a 1-day seminar on election law that MTA is putting on in Gaylord.

Supervisor Comments:

Supervisor Laureto shared information on EV charging stations.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela J. Laureto
Township Clerk

APPROVED